



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TTY/TDD 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Jon Rubin, Chair
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

Tom Ammiano
City and County of San Francisco

Tom Azumbrado
U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development

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Cities of Alameda County

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Sonoma County and Cities

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Association of Bay Area Governments

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U.S. Department of Transportation

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Alameda County

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and Development Commission

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and Housing Agency

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Bay Area Toll Authority

Therese W. McMillan
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

**Legislation Committee
February 9, 2007
Minutes**

Vice Chair Lempert called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Attending: committee members Azumbrado, Giacomini, Glover, Halsted, McLemore, Rubin, Spering, Tissier, and Yeager.

Minutes

Minutes of the Jan. 12, 2007 meeting were moved by Commissioner Spering, seconded by Commissioner Glover, and approved.

Legislative History

Rebecca Long reviewed the Feb. 1, 2007 edition noting several "spot" bills likely for use in implementing the transportation bonds approved by voters last year (Propositions 1B and 1C). She also noted Assembly Member Beall's AB 117 to create a traffic safety committee network fund from additional assessments for traffic offenses, and that a bill co-authored by Assembly Member DeSaulnier (AB 255) was just introduced regarding alternative fuel incentives and smog that she will add to the history.

State Legislation

Ms. Long presented AB 38 (Nava), a bill to establish the state Office of Homeland Security as a division within the state Office of Emergency Services, rather than a stand-alone agency. Commissioner Glover moved to approve the recommended position of "support" on AB 38. Commissioner Yeager seconded and without objection the committee referred the recommendation to the Commission.

Legislative Visits to Sacramento and DC

Sacramento – Ms. Long reported on one meeting already held (Jan. 31) with the Bay Area Assembly Caucus regarding implementation of the new programs created by Propositions 1B and 1C.

Washington – Ms. Long reviewed dates and activities for MTC advocacy in DC March 9-14. Commissioner Rubin said that participating in DC visits is a good way for new commissioners to gain perspective on federal funding issues in transportation.

Federal Legislation

Randy Rentschler said no earmarks are anticipated in 2007 and that funds for such projects would likely come from a discretionary grant program administered by the Federal Transit Administration, as was the practice before earmarks surged during the last several years. Mr. Rentschler reported on funding cuts to the Small Starts program.

Other Business/Public Comment/Next Meeting

A member of the public advocating motorcycle safety, Steve Tyson, suggested allowing motorcycles to ride on road shoulders. He suggested "an extra

couple of bucks” be added to motorcycle registration fees to fund road improvements that promote safe motorcycling. The next meeting was scheduled for Mar. 9, 2007. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.